

1916 Statistics Tell Of Returning Confidence

BANK CLEARINGS

The total bank clearing in past years show a measurable increase over those of 1914. In 1914, which saw the end of the war, there were issued over one hundred and fifty-seven millions. In 1915, the critical year of business, the clearings were nearly one billion dollars at a rate of 110 per cent. In 1916, however, confirming the opinions of city bank managers, as published in the Bulletin on Saturday, the clearings show an increase of about eight and a half millions—not very much, it is true, but enough to indicate that, as Mr. J. J. Anderson, manager of the Union Bank put it, the corner is being turned.

The figures for the past three years are as follows:

1914	\$157,308,686.02
1915	\$105,334,954.09
1916	\$143,455,962.19

AUTOMOBILES

During 1916 there were 9,636 licenses for motor vehicles issued by the Provincial Secretary's department—an increase of nearly 4,000 over 1915. The figures for each year since the formation of the province are as follows:

1900	41
1907	55
1908	45
1909	215
1910	292
1911	1,631
1912	2,503
1913	3,773
1914	4,728
1915	5,832
1916	9,650

VITAL STATISTICS FOR ALBERTA

The provincial vital statistics are for ten and a half months up to the middle of November, and therefore not yet available for a more accurate comparison. They show, however, that the number of the total registration for 1916, that the number in birth and marriages will not be so great as in 1915, and that the conditions arising from the war in 1915.

Incomplete

Births 10,252 12,825

Marriages 4,496 4,986

Deaths 3,306 3,602

BUILDING PERMITS

A McIvor, building inspector, reports that in 1916 there were issued 237 permits of the value of \$228,656, or with 237 permits in 1915, the value of \$285,675. The past year, he says, has made a better showing than the year 1915, as in 1916 there were issued 237 permits for buildings, whereas in 1915 there were principally for repairs. The fact that in 1916 a large number of new buildings were erected seems to indicate, says Mr. McIvor, that a return of public confidence.

PATRIOTIC FUND

The Patriotic Fund for Northern Alberta, from January 1st to December 31, 1916, collected over \$100,000 more than in 1915, and disbursed \$20,000 more in the same period of the previous year.

Contributions: 1916, \$281,074.62; 1915, \$174,246.00.

Disbursements: 1916, \$552,765; 1915, \$312,665.1.

Homestead Entries

The following homestead entries were made at the Dominion Lands office at Edmonton:

1915	1,917
1916	2,071
January	207
February	182
March	224
April	451
May	251
June	256
July	205
August	272
September	158
October	236
November	236
December	226
Total	3,869
2212	

FIRE IN CITY

Fire calls answered: 1915, 416; 1916, 451.

Increase for 1916 35

1915 1916.

Total insurance carried \$2,761,219 100,530

Loss paid Cos. \$2,586.21

The increase for 1916 was largely due to fire at the premises of the Empire Co., where the loss paid amounted to \$37,749.

RAILWAYS

During 1916, over one hundred miles of steel were laid by the railways operating in Alberta, the extensions being the main line on the McArthur lines in the north country. In addition, 54 miles of grading was done during the year by the E. & B. C., and 25 by the U.N.R. to the Oliver to St. Paul line.

1916: E. & B. C., 70 miles of steel; A. & G. W., 27 miles of steel; C.N.R. (Hanna Medicine Hat line), 7 miles of steel. Some steel was also laid by the C.P.R. on the Weyburn branch line.

1915: E. & B. C., 97; A. & G. W., 100; C.N.R., 49; C.P.R., 22.

The railway mileage in the province now approximately is: C.P.R., 1,909; C.N.R., 1,427; G.T.P., 707; E. & B. C. 407; A. & G. W., 217; Central Canada 49; total, 5,196.

CUSTOMS

The Dominion Customs Office at Edmonton furnishes the following figures:

Date Received: \$727,535.20

1916 \$815,521.08

Increase for year \$80,150.48

Dutiable parcels received by mail express: 24,350

1916 31,211

Increase over 1915 2,865

CITY WATER

Quantity of water supplied by city waterworks:

1915: 1,917,000 gallons

January 183,969

February 181,500

March 174,000

April 174,500

May 174,000

June 174,500

July 174,000

August 174,500

September 174,000

October 174,500

November 174,000

December 174,500

Total 2,212,000

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FOR 1917**

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THE PREMIER JEWELERS
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CAMPBELL - At 10813 74th avenue
Dec. 30, to Mr. and Mrs. Nat
Campbell, a son.The Weather
FORECAST TURNING COLDER.
Temperatures Recorded at Edmonton
Meteorological Station.

Tuesday, January 2nd.

3 a.m. 10 above
5 a.m. 12 above
9 a.m. 12 above
12 noon 12 above
3 p.m. 12 above
6 p.m. 12 above
9 p.m. 12 above

Wednesday, January 3rd.

9 a.m. Sun rises Wednesday

12 noon Sun sets Wednesday

During the last 24 hours there has been
no rain, and the temperature has shown an
increase.

Western Weather

The weather throughout the West has
been very cold and the temperatures have
fallen. Western provinces—Fair today
and cold tomorrow. Western prairies—
winds, light snowfalls and turning cedar,
haze, light winds and turning cedar.

Vancouver, cloudy, 30°

Edmonton, cloudy, 30°

Calgary, cloudy, 29°

Victoria, clear, 30°

Winnipeg, clear, 16°

Vancouver, clear, 27°

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EDITORIAL

The Morning Bulletin

CLASSIFIED

SECOND SECTION.

The Morning Bulletin

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1917

The New Year message of the King of Bavaria is that unless the Allies accept the terms Germany has proffered there can be no peace. This may help to make closer to the Allied peoples what Germany's position is. Berlin is not asking for terms in admission that it is defeated. It is dictating terms on the presumption that it is victorious. The Kaiser told his people that the fight must go on, more clearly that fact is recognized the more likely the Allied nations are to do the dictating themselves when that peace comes that peace is possible.

British losses in the Somme offensive have reached the terrible total of a half million men. The compensating consideration is the claim that the price paid along the western front strategy is left little room for cheap victories. We are back to the primal fact that the only way to win the war is to kill the Germans. Germany's military power is its wealth and its military power will be broken only when its armies have been destroyed or when they have become so weak that they cannot and know that the survivors refuse to fight longer in a hopeless cause. That cannot be accomplished without severe losses on our own side.

The Doherty amendments to the criminal law, passed at last session of Parliament, were designed to impress the nation with the fact that the Dominion Government was placing in the hands of provincial authorities the power to establish complete prohibition in all provinces where that was desired. They were at the same time so drawn as to absolve the Dominion Government from any responsibility toward the prohibitionists and to impose upon the provincial authorities the whole responsibility for dealing with the liquor traffic, including that portion of the power which was to be exercised properly and legally upon the Dominion authority. From the insistent demands that are being made for a Dominion law and the prohibition question which seems to be arising, it would appear that the Doherty amendments succeeded in deceiving nobody but their author and his hopeful colleagues who thought they might be enough to "dry" the party without getting enough like the genuine article to arouse the antagonism of the whisky party. They also indicate that the political situation is nearing its end, and that the Dominion Government will have either to forsake its attitude of neutrality on the prohibition question or take a stand of being judged a practitioner or propagator of the liquor traffic and the evils which flow from it.

Now it is Carranza who is to be held to strict accountability. He should worry.

Union laborers would have less objection to the idea of being conscripted to work in munition factories if the factories were conscripted too. One may be entirely willing to serve his country and yet have reasonable objections to binding himself to work at reduced wages for a munition manufacturer who has put his profits out of the country's dire necessity, and in face of a steplike and rapidly climbing cost of living.

King Constantine has been finally reduced to the necessity of writing notes to the Allies, explaining that the blockade blocks. That looks as though some "gingers" were finally being put into the Allied decision-making machinery. Perhaps if the blockade lasts long enough the Greeks will conclude that they could get along without Constantine better than they can get along without bread.

If the C.N.R. track is being offered to the allies from patriotic motives and for the purpose of helping them to win the war, the rails will, of course, be turned over at once. The result will be disastrous for investors and loss of operating profits—if any. A claim to recognition for patriotic sacrifice could hardly be found out in the incident of tearing up rails which cost \$80 per car and passing them to the Government for the present market price, something like \$80 per ton.

The British Government is placing orders for shells in Canada for the coming year which may reach the stupendous total of \$400,000,000. There is a corresponding shrinking in the contracts being placed by the United States. The transferance of business to the Dominion suggests what could and should have been done a year or more ago if the Canadian Shell Company had been operating in the interests of the Allies.

Until the British Government demanded the abolition of the Shell Committee and replaced it by a Canadian Munitions Board, it was a complete shambles, it is claimed, had been turned out in Canada. While the British authorities had to depend on United States firms for parts there was a lack of co-operation along the western front strategy is left little room for cheap victories. We are back to the primal fact that the only way to win the war is to kill the Germans. Germany's military power is its wealth and its military power will be broken only when its armies have been destroyed or when they have become so weak that they cannot and know that the survivors refuse to fight longer in a hopeless cause. That cannot be accomplished without severe losses on our own side.

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Not Much Self-Denial.

Active employees of the Chicago Hailor department are continuing experiments to last two weeks in order to demonstrate that a man can live on a diet of bread and water. The first breakfast consisted of fresh apples, butter and coffee. In order to live on a diet of bread and water it is necessary to eat three times a day. A third of sum- mernut diet the east coast of the continent could have been able to secure its construction. But the Dominion government covered it with the blanket mortgage which they took as security for their \$10 million loan. The C.N.R. and have since provided the money to pay the interest on the guaranteed bonds in order to keep their soldiers fed. The Canadian government could easily arrange to permit or to compel the company to complete the road. But instead of doing so, although paying interest on the bonds, they secured for themselves a monopoly of the road.

Regarding money: We are spending six million dollars on an unnecessary parliament building, and a million more on an arched bridge across the Bow River. The Canadian government could easily afford to let the C.N.R. and have since provided the money to pay the interest on the guaranteed bonds in order to keep their soldiers fed.

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The master of a railway to St. Paul de Metis is important. Its importance was recognized by the government in giving it a grant of \$13,400 a mile for 100 miles. The Alberta legislature to do in due the construction of the road. After a few miles of grading had been done, the contractor was suspended. After much negotiation the government recommended, and the legislature sanctioned, a further guarantee of \$100,000 to the builder of grading of roads and ties and bridge timber have been provided for the road. The Canadian Northern had arranged to have 60 miles of double track laid in the main line between Edmonton and Kamloops, which were being replaced by new 80 pound rails. What effect the new rail will have on the old rail is not known. The Canadian government will have the situation to remain to see up to 225 miles of main line track as a war measure, it is said to have been taken. The rails already taken from the main line and not yet laid down will also be seized. If they are not it will be because the provincial government has its guarantee. The government has caused the expenditure of over a million dollars in grading in the hills and getting out ties and bridge timber, thereby demonstrating their faith in the need of it. If the grading is not done, the rails certainly there would be no chance that they would not be taken out of the country. If they are still taken away it is surely not the fault of the Sifton government that they have not laid down long ago.

Had the Dominion government kept the cost of the piece of road in mind, the Doherty amendment might have been able to secure its construction. But the Dominion government covered it with the blanket mortgage which they took as security for their \$10 million loan. The C.N.R. and have since provided the money to pay the interest on the guaranteed bonds in order to keep their soldiers fed.

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not needed, and giving specific assurances that we have no proposals for conscription where it is needed. On the question of men we are stalling until after the election.

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EDMONTON, ALBERTA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1917.

CLASSIFIED

SECOND SECTION.

The Morning Bulletin

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School, 100 Broadway Avenue, Jasper
Block. Head and Neck Clinic, 100 Broadway
Avenue, Jasper Block. Phone 286. 8-4.

Woolmill Report.

DR. AMYOT, PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,
Mosher's, Diseases of Women, Office,
100 Broadway Avenue, Jasper Block. Phone
286. 8-4.

Woolmill Report.

DR. CECIL C. HOLMES, M.D., OFFICERS
AND OTHERS, 100 Broadway Avenue, N.W. 8-4.

Woolmill Report.

DR. H. L. COLLING, MELROD BLOCK,
Midwife and Women, Office 2-2, Jasper
Block. Phone 286. 8-4.

Woolmill Report.

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Woolmill Report.

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Midwife and Women, Office 2-2, Jasper
Block. Phone 286. 8-4.

Money and Markets**Opening and Close
Yesterday's Market****WINNIPEG MARKET. Wheat**

Open—100 to 1250 bushels
July—140 to 1800 bushels
Aug.—100 to 1250 bushels
Sept.—100 to 1250 bushels
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